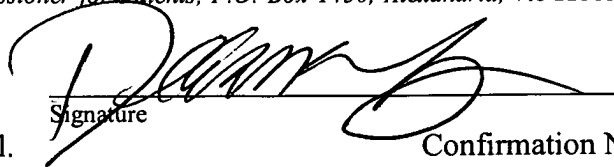




PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Signature

Confirmation No. 2377

Applicant : John W. Sims, et al.
Application No. : 09/807,070
Filed : April 6, 2001
Title : CASH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM INTERFACE

Grp./Div. : 3627
Examiner : Ronald Laneau

Docket No. : 39786/MEG/A484

APPELLANT'S BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
October 20, 2005

Commissioner:

1. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is AT Systems, Inc., the owner of the above-referenced application.

2. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences.

3. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application, are rejected and are at issue in this appeal. The claims are set forth in the Appendix attached hereto.

4. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No Amendment has been filed subsequent to the final rejection.

5. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The application contains claims 1-23, of which claims 1 and 21 are independent.

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Claim 1 is directed to a method of providing a communication interface for coupling a point-of-sale (POS) system 24 to a cash management system (CMS) 10 having cash depositing (e.g., bill verifier and stacker units (BVS) 16) and cash dispensing (e.g., rolled coin dispensers (RCD) 14) functions, as shown, for example, in FIG. 1 and described on page 2, line 28 through page 3, line 7.

The communication interface includes the CMS interface 26 and the POS interface 22. Including the interfaces 22, 26 in the cash management system 10 and POS system 24, respectively, permits the POS system user interface 28 to incorporate or integrate the features of the cash management system user interface 12 into the POS system 24 (See FIG.1; page 3, lines 8-11). By way of example, diagnostics for a cash management system 10 in one location can be run from a POS system 24 at another location anywhere in the world (See FIG. 1; page 3, lines 26-28). The communication interface for providing communication between the POS system and the CMS system includes software on the cash management system to permit operation of the CMS system over a communication link, and software on the POS system to permit control of the CMS over the communication link.

Claim 21 is directed to a method of providing a communication interface for coupling a P.O.S. system to a cash management system, wherein the cash management system includes a user interface, and a user interface software on the P.O.S. system emulates the user interface of the cash management system.

The graphical user interface provided on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link is shown, for example, on FIGs. 2-12 that illustrate various features of cash management system 10 as provided on its user interface 12 or remotely on P.O.S. system user interface 28. (See page 3, lines 21-22). For example, a Windows-based emulation of the user interface 12 can be provided as illustrated in Figs. 2-12. The system displays illustrated in Figs. 2-12 provide a graphical representation of the keypad, buttons, and display of user interface 12 (See page 3, lines 11-14).

Data formats are defined for communicating information between the cash management system and the POS system. For example, a description of an illustrative communication between a cash management system 10 and P.O.S. system 24 is given as follows. The

communication protocol includes a command string that the P.O.S. system 24 sends to the cash management system 10, telling the cash management system 10 what to do. In one embodiment, all strings follow the same format (See page 4, line 31 through page 5, line 2). The interface between the cash management system 10 and the POS system 24 can be configured to use a modem interface, cellemetry interface, or World Wide Web-based interface (See page 3, lines 24-26).

6. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,926,796 ("Walker et al.") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,869,826 ("Eleftheriou") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,067,530 ("Brooks, Jr. et al.").

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Walker et al. in view of Eleftheriou and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,953,709 ("Gilbert et al.") and further in view of Brooks, Jr. et al.

7. ARGUMENT

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 19 should be reversed.

According to MPEP § 2142. "[t]o establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (Emphasis Added)

A) The Examiner's rejection of claim 1 should be reversed.

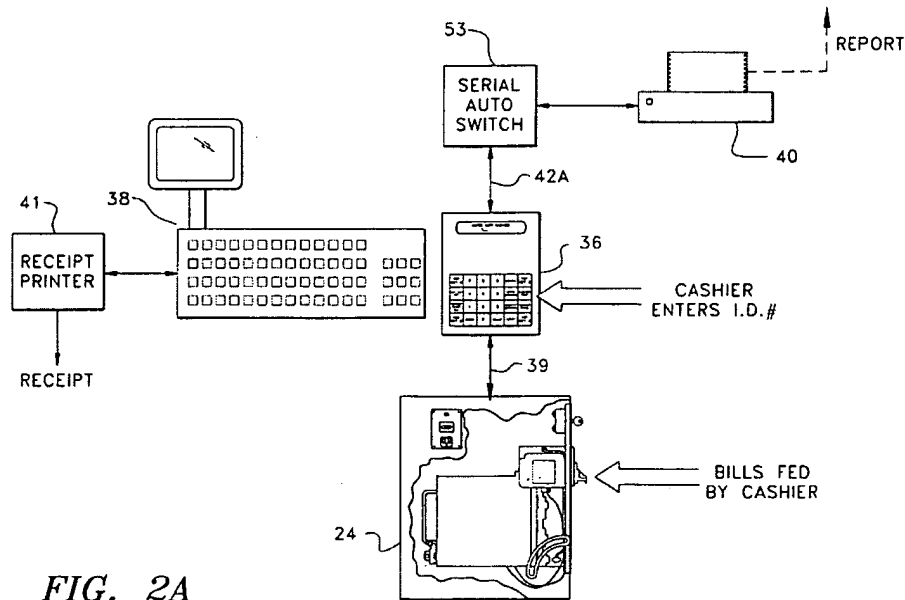
Independent claim 1 specifies a method of providing a communication interface for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system having cash depositing

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and cash dispensing functions. The communication interface provides communication between the P.O.S. system and the cash management system. Software is provided in the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and software is provided on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link.

On page 3, lines 8-10, of the February 23, 2005 final rejection, the Examiner admits "[n]either Walker nor Eleftheriou teaches cash management system as claimed. However, the Examiner contends that Brooks, Jr. et al. "teaches a cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing function," and cites FIG. 2A of Brooks, Jr. et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's contention that FIG. 2A of Brooks, Jr. et al. teaches a cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing functions as follows.

Brooks, Jr. et al. is directed to a cash management system that tracks bills received at at least one business establishment by cashier, by amount and by time while securing those bills immediately within a drop safe upon receipt from the customer in preparation for pickup by a courier service. However, FIG. 2A of Brooks, Jr. et al. illustrates, among other items, an electronic drop safe 24, which has a "cash depositing" function, but lacking any "cash dispensing" function. As can be seen in FIG. 2A below, the electronic drop safe 24 simply does not have any cash dispensing function.



Since FIG. 2A of Brooks, Jr. et al. does not show "a cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing functions," the cited references together do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Accordingly, applicants submit that the Examiner failed to show a *prima facie* case of obviousness over Walker et al. in view of Eleftheriou and further in view of Brooks et al.

Further, the Examiner on pages 2 and 3 of the February 23, 2005 final rejection contends that "Walker et al teach a method of providing a communication interface (col. 7, lines 18-23) for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system (col. 6, lines 46-48) for providing communication between the P.O.S. system and the cash management system (col. 7, lines 30-40)."

Applicants, however, cannot find any reference to a cash management system communicating with a P.O.S. system in the cited sections of Walker et al., nor in any other portion of Walker et al. By way of example, Walker et al. is directed to a method and apparatus for selling subscriptions to periodicals in a retail environment. As such, it can be seen in the

sections of Walker et al. cited by the Examiner, namely, Col. 7, lines 18-40, that the POS terminal 120 in Walker et al. is connected to a retail [periodicals] subscription system 130, which the Examiner appears to equate with the cash management system of the present invention. Applicants respectfully disagree.

A detailed view of the retail subscription system 130 is illustrated in FIG. 4 of Walker et al. It can be seen in FIG. 4 below and the corresponding description on Col. 7, line 57 to Col. 8, line 23, that the retail subscription system 130 includes CPU 410, RAM 420, ROM 430, data storage device 440, clock 450, authentication code generator 460, communication port 470, data network interface 480, and customer assistance service interface 490, but not any cash management functions.

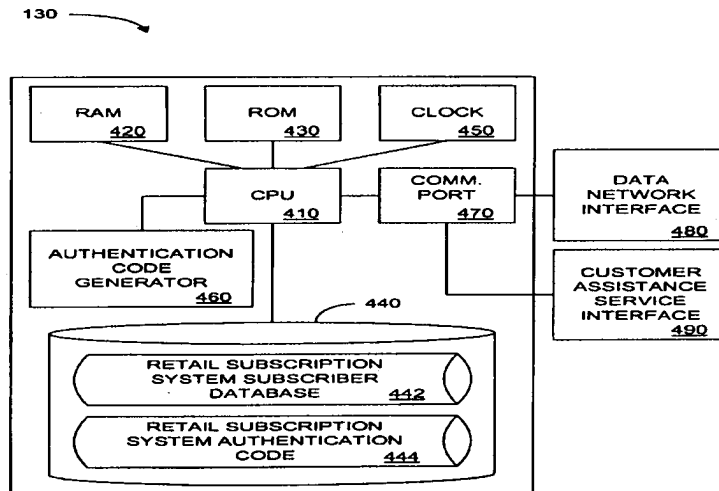


FIG. 4

In fact, Walker et al. describes the functions of the retail subscription system as follows:

"Data storage device 440 maintains retail subscription system (RSS) subscriber database 442 and retail subscription system authentication code (RSSAC) database 444. RSS subscriber database 442 stores subscription information

transmitted from the retailer. RSSAC database 444 contains a list of authentication codes used to validate subscription sales." (Col. 8, lines 8-14)

As such, there is no teaching or suggestion that the retail subscription system 130 is anything but a system for enabling subscription at a retail site, nor is there any indication that the retail subscription system 130 is used in any manner even remotely similar to the cash management system of the present invention. Therefore, it is a misnomer even to refer to the retail subscription system 130 of Walker et al. as a "cash management system," as the Examiner did in the February 23, 2005 final rejection.

As can be seen in below FIG. 1 of Walker et al., the POS terminal 120 is also connected to the POS controller 122, however, the POS controller 122 appears to make up a POS system rather than being a separate cash management system. Further, "POS controller 122 preferably comprises a server equipped with conventional hardware, including CPU 310, RAM 320, ROM 330, data storage device 340, clock 350, communications port 360, data network interface 370, and POS network interface 380" (Col. 7, lines 18-23), and does not have any cash management functions similar to those of the cash management system of the present invention.

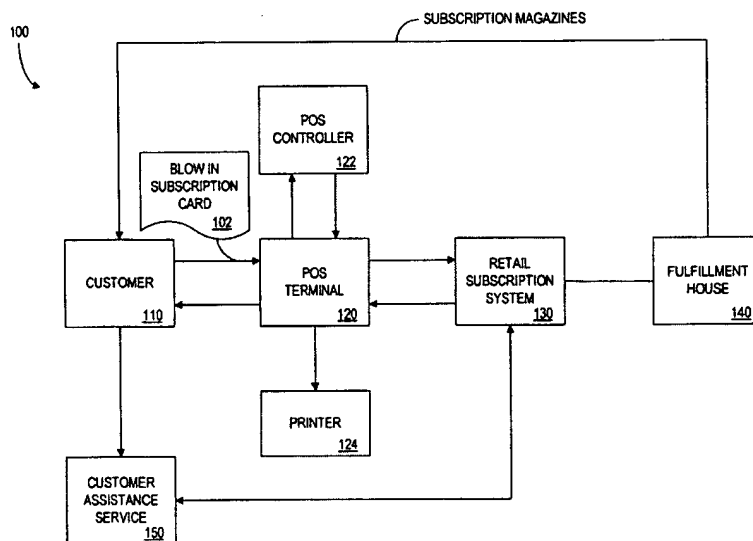


FIG. 1

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Further, the Examiner admits on page 3, lines 2-5, of the final rejection that "Walker et al do not teach providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the internet." However, the Examiner contends on page 3, lines 5-8, of the final rejection that "Eleftheriou teaches a method wherein providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link (modem or wide-area network) and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the internet," and cites Col. 4, lines 15-26 of Eleftheriou.

However, Col. 4, lines 15-26 of Eleftheriou merely recites:

The computer system 102 may also include other similar means for allowing computer programs or other instructions to be loaded. Such means can include, for example, a communications interface 118. Communications interface 118 allows software and data to be transferred between computer system 102 and external devices. Examples of communications interface 118 can include a modem, a network interface (such as an Ethernet card), a communications port, etc. Software and data transferred via communications interface 118 are in the form of signals which can be electronic, electromagnetic, optical or other signals capable of being received by communications interface 118.

The above description from Eleftheriou merely describes some means of loading software or other data, and does not refer to any loading of software related to "providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link."

Therefore, Walker et al., Eleftheriou and Brooks, Jr. et al. together do not teach or suggest "providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link."

Further, without any teaching or suggestion to combine the references, applicants do not believe that Eleftheriou can properly be combined with any other references to reject the claims of the present invention, much less Walker et al. which does not even disclose "a communication

interface for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system for providing communication between the P.O.S. system and the cash management system."

In view of the foregoing, claim 1 would not have been obvious over Walker et al. in view of Eleftheriou and further in view of Brooks, Jr. et al. at the time the invention was made. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claim 1 was improper, and should be reversed.

B) The Examiner's rejection of claim 3 should be reversed.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1, and further specifies defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system. Regarding claim 3, the Examiner states "it is obvious that the system of Eleftheriou must use same data formats when communicating information between the cash management and the P.O.S. system as claimed because both systems need to have similar format in order to be compatible." However, while the communications interface 118 of FIG. 1 described in the section cited by the Examiner (Col. 4, lines 15-26) is for transferring software and data between the computer system and external devices, there is no indication in Eleftheriou that the software or data is for controlling one device using another device. Hence, applicants do not see how the cited section of Eleftheriou can be construed as defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claim 3 should be reversed.

C) The Examiner's rejection of claims 5, 7, 9 and 11 should be reversed.

Claims 5 and 7 depend from claims 1 and 3, respectively, and each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem. Claims 9 and 11 depend from claims 1 and 3, respectively, and each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network. As discussed above in reference to claim 3, while the communications interface 118 in Eleftheriou is used for transferring software and data, there is no teaching or

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suggestion in the cited references that the software or data is to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link, regardless of whether the link includes a modem, a wide-area network or any other communication device or medium. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claims 5, 7, 9 and 11 should be reversed.

D) The Examiner's rejection of claims 13, 15, 17 and 19 should be reversed.

Claims 13 and 15 depend from claims 1 and 3, respectively, and each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system. Claims 17 and 19 depend from claims 1 and 3, respectively, and each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions of the cash management system. As discussed above in reference to claim 3, while the communications interface 118 in Eleftheriou is used for transferring software and data, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references that the software or data is to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link, regardless of whether to perform diagnostics functions, setup functions or any other relevant functions. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claims 13, 15, 17 and 19 should be reversed.

Claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20 should be reversed.

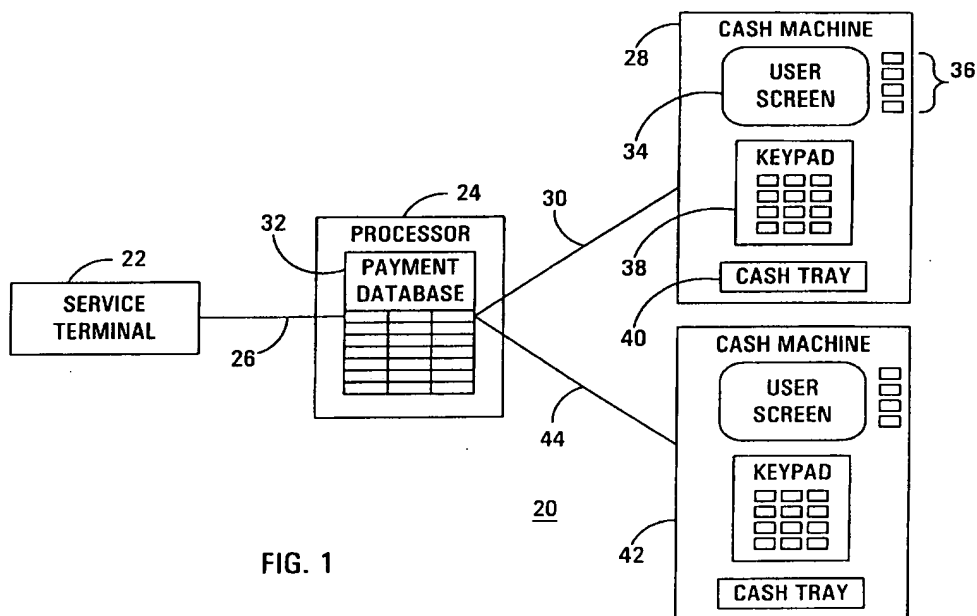
E) The Examiner's rejection of claim 2 should be reversed.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1, and further specifies providing a graphical user interface on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link.

In rejecting claims 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20, the Examiner admits that "[n]either Walker et al nor Eleftheriou teaches providing a graphical user interface on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link."

However, the Examiner contends that "Gilbert et al. teach a cash machine system 28 over a communication link (service terminal 22) including providing a graphical user interface," and cites col. 3, lines 16-22 and FIG. 1 of Gilbert et al.

Gilbert et al., however, has a user screen 34 (regardless of whether it constitutes a GUI or not) integrated to the cash machine 28, and not to the service terminal 22 or the processor 24, as can be seen in FIG. 1 below.



As such, unlike claim 2 of the present invention which recites, in a relevant portion, "providing a graphical user interface on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link," the user screen 34 on the cash machine 28 in FIG. 1 of Gilbert et al. does not permit control of the cash machine 28 by a P.O.S. system over the communication link because the cash machine 28 is the device on which the user screen 34 is mounted. In addition, the service terminal 22 appears to be used to print vouchers, and not to control the cash machine system 28. As such, the service terminal 22 cannot properly be construed as a P.O.S. system for controlling the cash machine 28.

Therefore, Gilbert et al. in combination with the other cited references does not teach or suggest all the limitations of claim 2. Therefore, claim 2 would not have been obvious over Walker et al. in view of Eleftheriou, and further in view of Gilbert et al., and further in view of Brooks, Jr. et al. at the time the invention was made. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 2 was improper, and should be reversed.

F) The Examiner's rejection of claim 4 should be reversed.

Claim 4 further specifies defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system, in addition to incorporating all the terms and limitations of claim 2. As discussed above in reference to claim 3 however, while the communications interface 118 in Eleftheriou is for transferring software and data between the computer system and external devices, there is no indication that the software or data is for controlling one device using another device. Hence, applicants do not see how the cited section of Eleftheriou can be construed as defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claim 4 should be reversed.

G) The Examiner's rejection of claims 6, 8, 10, 12 should be reversed.

Claims 6 and 8 each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem. Claims 10 and 12 each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network. As discussed above in reference to claim 4, while the communications interface 118 in Eleftheriou is used for transferring software and data, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references that the software or data is to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link, regardless of whether the link includes a modem, a wide-area network, or any other communication device or medium. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claims 6, 8, 10 and 12 should be reversed.

H) The Examiner's rejection of claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 should be reversed.

Claims 14 and 16 each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system. Claims 18 and 20 each further specify providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions on the cash management system. As discussed above in reference to claim 4, while the communications interface 118 in Eleftheriou is used for transferring software and data, there is no teaching or suggestion in the cited references that the software or data is to permit control of the cash management system by the P.O.S. system over the communication link, regardless of whether to perform diagnostics functions, setup functions or any other relevant functions. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection of claims 14, 16, 18 and 20 should be reversed.

Claims 21-23 would not have been obvious at the time the invention was made. Therefore, the Examiner's rejection of claims 21-23 should be reversed.

As to claims 21-23, the Examiner rejected them without even giving any reason for the rejection. By way of example, the Examiner does not indicate which portion of which reference shows "providing a user interface software on the P.O.S. system which emulates the user interface of the cash management system" (*Emphasis Added*) as recited in claim 21. As such, the Examiner fails to show the *prima facie* case of obviousness for claims 21-23. Therefore, the rejection of claims 21-23 should be reversed.

I) The Examiner's rejection of claims 21-22 should be reversed.

Independent claim 21 is similar to claim 1 with two notable differences. First, the cash management system of claim 21 is not required to have either the cash depositing or cash dispensing function. On the other hand, the cash management system of claim 21 includes a user interface provided by a user interface software on the P.O.S. system which emulates the user interfaces of the cash management system. Claim 22 further specifies that the user interface includes a keyboard and a display. Since the Examiner failed to show the *prima facie* case of obviousness for claims 21 and 22, the rejection of these claims should be reversed.

J) The Examiner's rejection of claim 23 should be reversed.

Claim 23 further specifies that the user interface software on the P.O.S. system emulates the display of the cash management system by changing a display window of the P.O.S. system at the same time and in the same way as the display of the cash management system. Since the Examiner failed to show the *prima facie* case of obviousness for claim 23, the rejection of claim 23 should be reversed.

8. CLAIMS APPENDIX

A copy of the claims involved in the appeal is attached.

9. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

There is no Evidence Appendix.

10. RELATED PROCEEDING APPENDIX

There is no Related Proceeding Appendix.

11. CONCLUSION

None of the cited references teaches or suggests a method of providing a communication interface for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing functions. In particular, Brooks, Jr. et. al. does not disclose any cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing functions. Further, none of the cited references teaches or suggests "providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link." In addition, none of the cited references teaches or suggests "providing a user interface software on the P.O.S. system which emulates the user interface of the cash management system." Therefore, the claims are not obvious over any of the references, either individually or together in any combination.

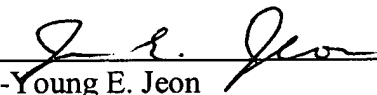
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For the above reasons, claims 1-23 are believed allowable and reversal of the rejection is respectfully request.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By



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626/795-9900

JEJ/jej

APPENDIX

1. A method of providing a communication interface for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system having cash depositing and cash dispensing functions, the communication interface for providing communication between the P.O.S. system and the cash management system including providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link includes providing a graphical user interface on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include defining data formats for communicating information between the cash management system and the P.O.S. system.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over

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the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem.

6. The method of claim 2 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem.

7. The method of claim 3 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem.

8. The method of claim 4 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a modem.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash

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management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network.

10. The method of claim 2 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network.

11. The method of claim 3 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network.

12. The method of claim 4 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for controlling the cash management system over a wide-area network.

13. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash

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management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system.

14. The method of claim 2 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system.

15. The method of claim 3 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system.

16. The method of claim 4 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing diagnostic functions on the cash management system.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash

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management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions on the cash management system.

18. The method of claim 2 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions on the cash management system.

19. The method of claim 3 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions on the cash management system.

20. The method of claim 4 wherein providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link together include providing software on at least one of the cash management system and the P.O.S. system for performing setup functions on the cash management system.

21. A method of providing a communication interface for coupling a point-of-sale (P.O.S.) system to a cash management system for providing communication between the P.O.S. system and the cash management system including providing software on the cash management system to permit operation of the cash management system over a communication link, and

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providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over the communication link,

wherein the cash management system includes a user interface, and providing software on the P.O.S. system to permit control of the cash management system over a communication link comprises providing a user interface software on the P.O.S. system which emulates the user interface of the cash management system.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the user interface of the cash management system includes a keyboard and a display.

23. The method of claim 21, wherein the user interface software on the P.O.S. system emulates the display of the cash management system by changing a display window of the P.O.S. system at the same time and in the same way as the display of the cash management system.

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